SUBJECTS.

new lands. . The concession he suggested was that the present owners of the estates should be permitted to purchase, without recourse to regular auction, adjoining waste lands up to 33 per cent of the acreage of their holdings, at the upset price of Rs. 25 per acre. The rules provided for the lands being auctioned and the Member requested that that should not be resorted to wherever the original owners applied for adjoining lands within the maximum suggested by him.

Dewan's reply.—The Government are now pursuing a policy of giving preferential consideration to the owners of adjoining estates when waste lands are assigned. The policy will be continued. But no definite rule will be laid down or promise made. It is noted that the Member does not ask for any reduction in the acreage value of Rs. 25 per acre.

8. The desirability of expediting the registry of Cherikal lands in the Peermade taluk included in the Thanathuchitta register under favourable conditions.

Mr. R. Krishna Panikkar (Member, Peermade taluk) thanked the Dewan for the benefits conferred upon the Nair community by the passing of the Nair Regulation. Proceeding to the subject, the Member said that there were several *cherikal* lands in the taluk included in the *thanathuchitta* register which had to be assigned, and he complained of the delay of the Revenue Department in registering them. He pointed out that *cherikal* lands could only be cultivated once in twelve years and the assessment of five fanams per acre imposed by the Government was felt as a heavy burden by the holders. . The profits from the cultivation would not in some cases be enough even to pay the tax to the Government. Another hardship experienced by the ryots was the accumulated arrears now being recovered from them in a lump at the time the registry was being effected. The amount of the arrears increased with the delay in completing the registry. In view of the peculiar difficulties of *cherikal* cultivation, the Member prayed for the following reliefs :—

(1) Stringent orders should be issued to the Revenue Department to expedite the registry of the lands.

(2) Such of the lands as were already in the enjoyment of holders should be registered in their names and the arrears due recovered in three yearly instalments.

(3) The remaining lands available for registry should be registered in the names of poor applicants in blocks of five acres each on payment of the *thadivila* and the current year's tax.

(4) The assessment of five fanams per acre should be reduced to three fanams per acre.

He also requested that two blocks of 100 acres each might be set apart as grazing grounds on the side of the Kottayam—Kumili road from the 21st to the 29th mile and also that a Veterinary hospital be established at Kanjirappalli.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

9. The desirability of permitting malavaram cultivation in the Thodupuzha taluk under certain conditions.

Mr. Chacko Eippe (Member, Thodupuzha taluk) said that the people of Thodupuzha subsisted mainly on the cultivation of hill slopes, that forest reserves, rubber plantations &c., had reduced the scope of their cultivation to a large

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